

an attorney who has been hired to serve the department or by an attorney from the County Attorney's Office through chargebacks to the department.

**SUBJECT: Expedited Bill 19-04. Personnel – Collective Bargaining – Police**

The Committee had before it the memorandum from Senior Legislative Attorney Faden, dated July 13, 2004.

**ACTION:** Discussed the bill which sets up a process to bargain and resolve impasses that occur out of the normal bargaining cycle on reopener issues and issues regarding the effects of the exercise of management rights.

Recommended approval of the bill.

**SUBJECT: FY06 Budget Process and Budget Document**

The Committee had before it the memoranda and attachments from Council Staff Director Farber and Legislative Analyst Sherer, dated July 8, 2004, respectively.

**ACTION:** Received an overview from Mr. Farber of the issues contained in his memorandum. Received comments from Ms. Swaim-Staley, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), regarding the following OMB initiatives concerning the budget document and process: the provision of more information from OMB on grants and contracts; the elimination of redundant information in the budget documents; the provision of more information on key programs and important issues; the plans to align programs with the financial structure; the advice that will be given to Council staff to use the existing databases; plans to improve productivity and analyze leases and the use of the County's fleets; the comparison that will be done of actual to projected performance measures; the review that will be undertaken of the measures for relevancy, accuracy, and usefulness; and the intent to update the revenue database.

Noted the importance of defining the problem the Council is trying to resolve, determining what the Council is attempting to achieve, and what changes are needed to accomplish this; and that the budget document should address the needs of the general public and such groups as the Taxpayers League and the League of Women Voters.

Discussed the following issues associated with the review of the operating budget: the focus on the margins and on other issues Council staff identifies, not on the base; the budget document and process as part of the problem, and the need to find a more meaningful process; the need for reviews to be targeted since there is a limited amount of time available for budget review; the desire of advocates for a comprehensive review of a program, particularly when a program is reduced; the

Later in the meeting, Councilmember Praisner stated that had she been present for the vote, she would have voted in the affirmative.

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The Council had before it the memorandum and attachments from Mr. Faden, dated July 13, 2004.

Councilmember Denis, Member of the Management and Fiscal Policy Committee, stated that the Committee recommended approval of the bill as drafted.

**ACTION:** Enacted Bill 19-04, as introduced.

The MFP Committee made the motion and the bill was enacted by a roll call vote:

YEAS: Denis, Floreen, Subin, Leventhal, Knapp, Andrews, Praisner, Perez, Silverman.

The Council recessed at 2:24 P.M. and reconvened at 2:40 P.M.

**SUBJECT: Bill 29-03. Forest Conservation – Equestrian Facilities**

The Council had before it the memorandum and attachments from Senior Legislative Attorney Faden, dated July 13, 2004.

Councilmember Silverman, Chair of the Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee, stated that Councilmember Knapp's suggested amendments on ©37-38 attached to staff's memorandum are before the Council for consideration.

At the request of President Silverman, Mr. Berlage, Chair of the Planning Board and the original sponsor of the Forest Conservation Law that was enacted by the Council in 1991, provided background information regarding the intent of the legislation and commented on the Board's recommendations as it relates to Bill 29-03. Referring to the amendments submitted by the Sierra Club that are attached to Council staff's supplementary memorandum, Mr. Berlage stated that he and the Planning staff support Amendment 3, Equestrian support buildings and related activities are exempt only if built using best management practices; and Amendment 5, The limitations to this exemption will be enforced under the authority of Chapter 22A of the County Code. Mr. Berlage expressed the view that the remaining two amendments suggested by the Club would place extraordinary burdens on small equestrian facilities.

Councilmember Praisner requested and received information from Ms. Conlon, Forest Conservation Program Administrator, Department of Park and Planning, that most agricultural activities do not require platting or sediment control permits. Ms. Praisner, in expressing concern that the proposed exemption to the Forest Conservation Law for equestrian facilities is currently less restrictive than for agricultural activities, said that an agricultural activity has to be exempt from both the platting requirements and from the requirements to